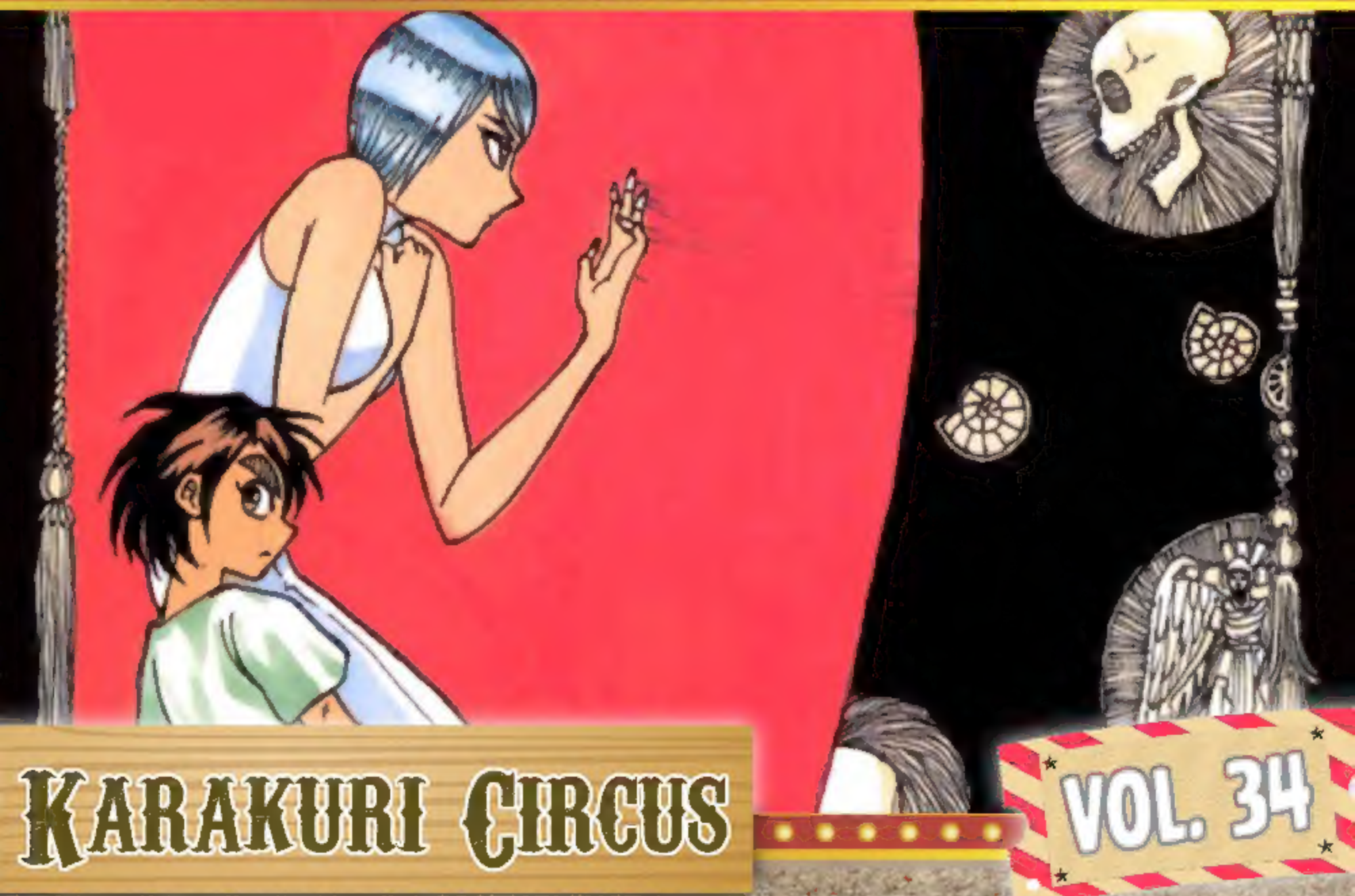

KARAKURI CIRCUS

VOL. 34

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TRANSLATION :
- KAIDU

REDRAWING :
- MARLLEY/STEFE/JUVII

TYPESETTING :
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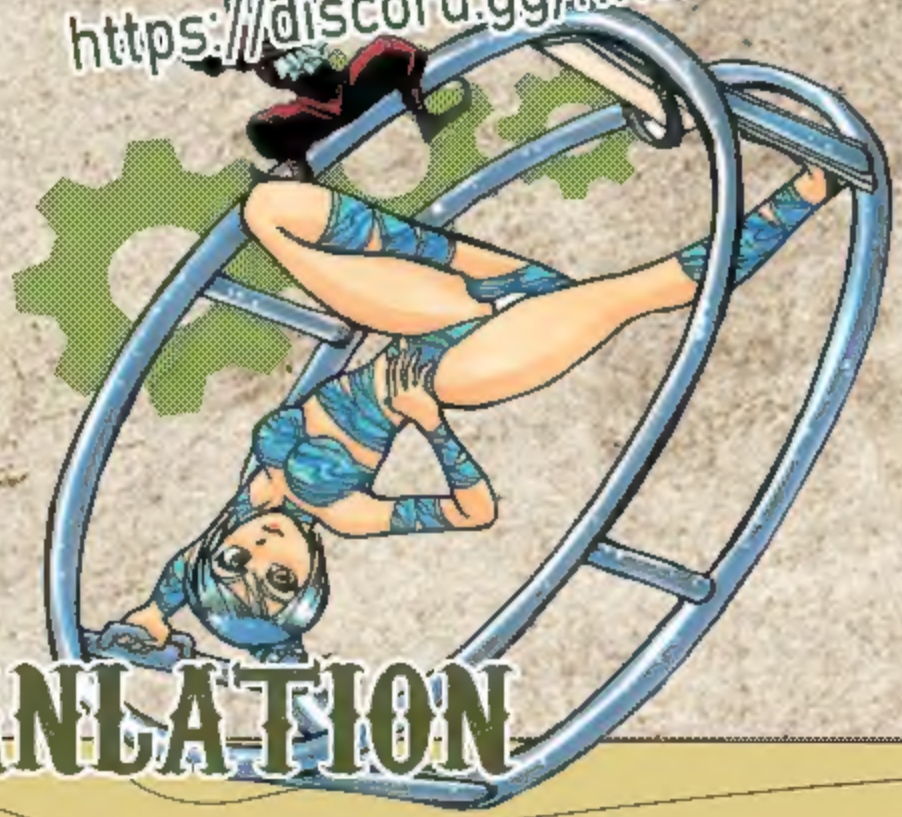

NAKAMACHI SCANLATION

Act 9 – The reason of the genius

MAS-
TER!

HM...

HE'S MANIPU-
LATING A MARIO-
NETTE... WITH ONLY
ONE HAND?

COME OUT, GOLER-
MES!

Act 9 –
The reason of the genius

...WITH THAT MASS AND HARDNESS... MY BLADE WON'T CUT THROUGH IT VERY EASILY...

AS EXPECTED, BLADES ARE INEFFECTIVE...

MASTER FACELESS MADE THAT PUPPET FOR HIMSELF, AFTER ALL...

A DEATH MATCH!

THIS... THIS IS...

W-WHAT IS THIS? WHY IS MASARU DOING THIS? WHY IS SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENING IN KUROGA VILLAGE...?

YOUNG MAN, GOOD WORK CONTROLLING GOLERMES WITH A SINGLE HAND.

MASTER, BE CARE-FUL.

GRY-PHON-KUN, STAY DOWN!

AND SO, THE THREADS WILL SEVER AS A RESULT OF USING THAT EXCESSIVE POWER...

YOU LIKELY WON'T EVEN LAST FOR FIVE MINUTES!

THAT MUST REQUIRE AN INCREDIBLE STRENGTH FOR A CHILD LIKE YOU.

HOWEVER, I'M WELL AWARE.

I KNOW IT, GRYPHON-KUN!!

MAS-TER!!

THE MARIONETTE YOU'RE MANIPULATING IS FULL OF GAPS. FIVE MINUTES WILL GO BY IN A INSTANT.

SO I JUST NEED TO WAIT QUIETLY ...

AFTER ALL, IT'S A COMMON AND FOOLISH BELIEF THAT GENIUSES ARE THOSE WHO CAN DO ANYTHING WITHOUT PUTTING IN THE EFFORT.

YES, HE HIMSELF MIGHT CONSIDER THAT A DISAPPOINTING EVALUATION...

HUHUH... I HAVEN'T SEEN A CHILD LIKE HIM IN A VERY LONG TIME...

SAIGA MASARU IS A MONSTER CLASS GENIUS.

ON TOP OF THAT, HE'S ABLE TO REPLICATE IT WITHOUT HESITATION.

WHEN HE SEES SOMETHING ONCE, HE'S ABLE TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING DOWN TO THE SMALLEST DETAILS...

IT'S TRUE THAT HIS ABILITY TO REMEMBER THINGS EXCEEDS THAT OF OTHERS.

THAT'S JUST AN ORDINARY GENIUS. I'VE SEEN MANY LIKE THAT.

HMPH... HOW DULL.

BUT YOU KNOW HE'S DIFFERENT!

EVEN THE BEST OLYMPIC ATHLETES WOULD HAVE THEIR BODY AND MIND DESTROYED BY IT... A CHILD WOULD NEVER BEAR THIS KIND OF TRAINING.

YES... I MADE HIM SPEND HALF OF HIS DAY TRAINING...

EVERY DAY, FOR ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS!

ALTHOUGH DRINKING THE AQUA VITAE IN THE BLOOD OF HIS GRANDFATHER, SHOUJI, RAISED HIS ENDURANCE...

YOU REALLY WENT OVER-BOARD, GUY.

YES, I SAW IT THROUGH THE EYESECTS...

SOMETHING LIKE THAT... BESIDES...

...JUST LIKE A SHIROGANE'S TRAINING... ALTHOUGH HE'S NOT ONE...

HIS AVERAGE SLEEPING TIME WAS LESS THAN AN HOUR.

HIS BODY WOULDN'T LET HIM... IT KEPT HIM MOVING.

THAT MIGHT'VE MADE THINGS MORE HELLISH... HE COULDN'T EVEN FAINT WHEN HE WAS SUFFERING FROM THE TRAINING.

AND FIGHTING TECH-NIQUE.

THE AQUA VITAE BLOOD INSIDE OF HIM CONTAINED HIS GRANDFATHER SHOUJI'S PUPPETRY...

HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WIN FACELESS' GAME OTHER-WISE...

PHYSICAL STRENGTH, PHYSIQUE, REFLEXES... HE HAS TO BUILD HIS BODY TO BE ABLE TO USE THOSE THINGS.

HE CAN'T USE THEM SIMPLY BY "KNOWING" THEM.

IN ADDITION, HE HAD TO PRACTICE IT OVER AND OVER TO THE POINT OF OF LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS ...

HE HAD TO HAMMER IT INTO HIS BODY.

WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE JUST A NORMAL CHILD. YOU SHOULD JUST GO TO SCHOOL NORMALLY, AND REST NORMALLY LIKE ANY OTHER CHILD.

HUMPH, YOU CAN'T RAISE YOUR ARMS ANYMORE... YOU HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO VOMIT, AND YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND...

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LET'S STOP THE TRAINING AND HAVE YOU LOSE ON THE NEXT GAME. YOU'LL FEEL RELIEVED WHEN YOU DO IT.

YOU DID YOUR BEST... YOU'VE GONE THROUGH SO MUCH PAIN, SHIROGANE WILL UNDER-STAND.

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE STOP THIS.

NO!

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP WINNING AGAINST THE AUTOMATA.

I'M TELLING YOU IT'S POINTLESS TO CON-TINUE THE TRAINING.

NO... WAY...

AND... PROTECT... SHIROGANE.

I WILL... GET... STRON... GER.

I... WILL...

BUT SOMEONE ONCE SAID THIS.

I BELIEVE THERE ARE MANY DEFINITIONS OF WHAT A GENIUS IS.

"...BUT THE ONE WITH THE TALENT TO PERSIST ON THEIR EFFORTS."

"A TRUE GENIUS ISN'T THE ONE GIFTED WITH A NATURAL-BORN TALENT..."

A "MIRACLE."

GUY, I'M SURE IT IS WHAT THEY CALL...

I WONDER WHAT'S THE REASON BEHIND SUCH WILLPOWER...

MASARU IS BUILDING SOME-THING WITH HIS EFFORTS ON TOP OF HIS GENIUS.

WHY...?

ABOUT TIME YOU NOTICED IT, SYLVESTRE!!

THAT BOY CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE THIS MUCH PHYSICAL STRENGTH!

IT CAN'T BE.

IT'S BEEN OVER FIVE MINUTES, BUT THE MARIONETTE'S STRING DIDN'T SEVER.

NOW GET CRUSHED BY GOLERMES' PUNCH!!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH MASTER HAS TRAINED?!

THE ARM WON'T BE ABLE TO CHANGE ONCE IT'S EXTENDED

IN OTHER WORDS, THIS ARM IS DONE FOR!

I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS!

UWAHH, YOU MISSED HIM!!

MY BLADE... CAN CUT IT!

YOUNG MAN, YOU'VE DONE WELL... SO LONG!

WHA...

UGH... I WAS CARE-LESS...

MY, OH MY, SYLVESTRE ...

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MA-MASTER!!

AH... IH...

KYAAAAAAAH!!

YOU... ARE MURDER-ERS...

MU-... MURDER-ERS...

W-... WAIT, KIKU-SAN...

I... I HAVE TO TELL THE POLICE...

KI-... KIKU-SAN... WHY...

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NO CHATTING DURING THE GAME, BIG SIS.

GUH...?!

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THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL *TAKING A HOSTAGE*, RIIIGHT.

MA-SARU-CHAN?

OH-OH, I'M JUST THE GAME WITNESS, I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS, BUT...